



Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

Air Resources Board

Mary D. Nichols, Chairman
9480 Telstar Avenue, Suite 4
El Monte, California 91731 www.arb.ca.gov



Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

August 2007

MAIL-OUT: MSO #2007-02

TO: ALL CALIFORNIA HEAVY-DUTY VEHICLE OPERATORS

SUBJECT: ENFORCEMENT OF CALIFORNIA'S PERIODIC SMOKE
INSPECTION PROGRAM AND ASSEMBLY BILL 1009's ENGINE
LABELING REQUIREMENTS.

Dear fleet operator, the California Air Resources Board wishes to inform you of two important environmental laws that pertain to heavy-duty vehicles. These two laws are the **Periodic Smoke Inspection Program** and the **"Engine Labeling Certification Requirements"** of Assembly Bill 1009.

The **Periodic Smoke Inspection Program** was implemented in July 1996 by the California Air Resources Board. Under the program, owners of California-based fleets with two or more vehicles are required to perform annual smoke opacity tests on their heavy-duty diesel-powered vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating greater than 6,000 lbs. A fleet facility may use its own technicians or contract with a private facility to perform the smoke opacity tests. All smoke opacity tests must comply with the Society of Automotive Engineers J1667 test procedures.

- All heavy-duty diesel powered vehicles (except those with engines that are four years old or newer or those used exclusively for personal use (such as a motor home) must be tested annually with a smoke opacity meter;
- All heavy-duty diesel powered vehicles must meet the applicable opacity standards of 55% for pre-1991 engines and 40% for 1991 and newer engines;
- All heavy-duty diesel powered vehicles determined to be "non-compliant" must be repaired and retested;
- Records of opacity tests, repair information, and post repair opacity tests for each vehicle must be maintained for at least two years.

The ARB has the authority to audit the inspection records of all heavy-duty diesel-powered vehicles at owner/operator designated fleet locations and may test vehicles to verify compliance. Fleets found to be non-compliant will be subject to legal action and significant civil penalties - over the last 18 months, non-compliant fleets received fines ranging from \$5,000 to \$161,750. Audits are currently being conducted year round throughout California. A listing of facilities that are qualified to conduct PSIP testing can also be obtained from our website or by contacting the appropriate offices noted above. The ARB highly recommends that only service technicians who are certified by the **California Counsel of Diesel Education and Technology (CCDET)** perform the smoke opacity tests.

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our website: <http://www.arb.ca.gov>.

California Environmental Protection Agency

The second program refers to a more recent law (**AB 1009**) implemented in 2007. If you operate within California from Mexico, Canada, or any other state, you are required to operate vehicles equipped with engines meeting emissions standards at least as stringent as Federal emission standards for the model-year that the engine was manufactured. All vehicles determined to be non-compliant will be cited and will receive significant civil penalties. To ensure this compliance, all heavy-duty vehicle engines must have a manufacture's emission control label (ECL) properly affixed to the engine showing this equivalency. If your vehicle's engine is missing its ECL, contact your engine manufacture authorized dealer for a replacement ECL.

For further information regarding these programs, please contact our offices at the following:

For PSIP information: Please contact Mr. Ramon Cabrera, Air Pollution Specialist, at (626) 450-6177 or by e-mail at rcabrera@arb.ca.gov.

For AB 1009 or CCDET certification program information: In Northern California, please call the Heavy-Duty Diesel Enforcement Section-North at (916) 322-7061 or in Southern California, please call the Heavy-Duty Diesel Enforcement-South at (626) 450-6161.

You can also visit our website at www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/hdvp/hdvp.htm for further information on these programs.

Sincerely,

/s/

Annette Hebert, Chief
Mobile Source Operations Division